JOHN BRECKENRIDGE ELLIS

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erly.

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"I am your friend, too, Fran."

"My friend, too!" she echoed erly. "Oh, thanks—also!"

Abbott came through the gate, and

tried to read her face. "Does the fact

that I am her friend condemn me?"

"No - just classifies you. You

a mirror in which she sees herself;

her conscience is so sure, that she

"Her friends are mere puppets, it

appears," Abbott said, smiling. "But

Would you mind to explain your imagi-

His jesting tone made her impa-

tient. "I don't think her character

what she isn't. Her opinion of what

takes it from you as one snatches a

Abbott was still amused. "Has she

"Yes. You have given her strong

weapons against me, and you may be

"Fran, step back into the light-let

Fran set her back against the fence,

"As soon as you and Mrs. Gregory

but I guess there's not much danger

now!

sure she'll use them to her advantage."

emptied me of all she wants?"

toy from a little child."

"I told her neither."

reflector of her opinions."

BOBBS-MERRILL CO.)



SYNOPSIS.

Fran arrives at Hamilton, Gregory's home in Littleburg, but finds him absent conducting the choir at a camp meeting. She repairs thither in search of him, laughs during the service and is asked to leave. Abbott Ashton, superintendent of schools, escorts Fran from the rent. He calls her Gregory is a wealthy man, deeply interested in charity work, and a pillar of the church. Ashton becomes greatly interested in Fran and while taking leave of her, holds her hand and is seen by Sapphira Clinton, sister of Robert Clinton, chairman of the school board. Fran tells Gregory she wants a home with him. Grace Noir, Gregory's private secretary, takes a violent dislike to Fran and advises her to go away at once. Fran hints at a twenty-year-old secret, and Gregory in agitation asks Grace to beave the room. Fran relates the story of how Gregory married a young sirl at Springfield while attending college and then described her. Fran is the child of that marriage. Gregory had married his present wife three years before the death of Fran's mother. Fran takes a liking to Mrs. Gregory. Gregory explains that Fran is the daughter of a very dear friend who is dead. Fran agrees to the story. Mrs. Gregory's story of his dead friend and hints that Fran may be an imposter. Fran declares that the secretary must go. Grace shows persistent interest in Gregory's story of his dead friend and hints that Fran may be an imposter. Fran declares that the secretary must go. Grace shows persistent interest in Gregory's story of his dead friend and hints that Fran may be an imposter. Fran declares that the secretary must go. Grace shows persistent interest in Gregory's romains stanch in her friendship. Fran is ordered before Superintendent Ashton to be punished for insubordination in school. Chairman Clinton is present. The affair ends in Fran leaving the school in company of the two men to the amazement of the scandalmongers of the town. Abbott, while taking a walk alone at midnight, finds Fran on a bridge telling her fortune by cards. She tells Abbo

CHAPTER XII.-Continued.

"Oh," Grace exclaimed, disagreeably surprised. "I did not know that you play cards, Prefessor Ashton. Do you also attend the dances? Surely you haven't been dancing and playing cards very long?"

"Not for a great while," responded Abbott, with the obstinacy of a good conscience wrongfully accused.

"Only since Fran came, I am sure she said, feeling him escaping. She looked at him with something like scorn, inspired by righteous indignation that such as he could be influenced by Fran. That look wrought havoc with the halo he had so long blinked at, as it swung above her head

"Does that mean," he inquired, with a steady look, "that you imagine Fran has led me into bad habits?"

"I trust the habits are not fixed, rather contemptuously. "I hardly think you mean to desert the church, and lose your position at school, for the sake of-of that Fran."

"I hardly think so, either," returned Abbott. "And now I'd better go to my school work."

gold. I don't know what all this means,

but when I have had a talk with her-"Don't go, Professor Ashton," interposed Grace, as he started up, "until you advise me. Shall I tell Mr. Gregory? Or shall I conceal it on the as surances that It will never happen

Abbott seated himself with sudden "Conceal it, Miss ersunsiveness. Grace, conceal it!" he urged.

"If you will frankly explain what happened-here before Mrs. Gregory, so she can have the real truth, we will never betray the secret. But if you cannot tell everything, I shall feel it my duty-I don't know how Mrs. Gregory feels about it-but I must tell Mr. Gregory.

"I would rather wait," said Mrs Gregory, "and talk to Fran. She will promise me anything. I trust you Abbott; I know you would never lead my Httle girl into wrong-doing. Leave it all to me. I will have a good talk with

"And," said Abbott eagerly, "if we both solemnly promise-Grace bit her lip. His "we" condemned him

"I don't ask you to hide the affair on my account," he said, holding up his head. "I don't want Fran put in an unjust light. She isn't to be judged "ike other people."

"Oh," murmured Grace, "then you think there is more than one standard of right? I don't. There's one God and one right. No, I cannot consent what might satisfy Mrs. Gregory might not seem best to me. No, professor, if you feel that you cannot explain what I saw, last night, I shall feel obliged to tell Mr. Gregory as soon as the choir practice ends."

"Didn't Fran refuse to tell?" Abbott emporized.

"Yes," was the skilful response; "but her reticence must have been to save you, for the girl never seems ashamed of anything she does. I imagine she hated to get you into trouble."

"Miss Grace, you have heard Mrs. Gregory say that she trusts me-and she is Fran's guardian. I ask you to do the same."

"I must consider my conscience." That answer closed all argument "You had better tell her," said Mrs. Gregory, "for she is determined to know."

"I was taking a walk to rest my mind," Abbott said slowly, proceeding as if he would have liked to fight his ground inch by inch. "and it was rather late. I was strolling about Littleburg. At last I found myself at the new bridge that leads to the campmeeting grounds, when ahead of me, there was-I saw Fran. I was much surprised to find her out there, alone."

"I can understand that," said Grace quietly, "for I should have been surprised myself." Mrs. Gregory turned upon Grace.

that petrified the secretary. "When I came up to the bridge, she was sitting there, with some cardsall alone. She had some superstition about trying fortunes on a new bridge at midnight, and that explains the late-

ness of the hour. So I persuaded her to come home, and that is all." Mrs. Gregory breathed with relief. What an odd little darling!" she murmured, smiling

"What kind of fortune was she tellng?" Grace asked. Whatever kind the new bridge

would give her." "Oh, then the cards stood for people, didn't they! And the card you dropped in the yard was your card, of course."

"Of course." ent herself, perhaps?"

"I have told you the story," said Abbott, rising. That means she did. Then she

vanted to know if you and she would Mrs. Gregory, I have always felt that Fran has deceived us about her age! She is older than she pretends to be!"

"I believe this concludes our bargain," said Abbott, rising.

"Fran is imprudent," said Mrs. Greg- Fran told me long ago that she is of speech." ory, in distress, "but her heart is pure eighteen years old; she came as a lit-

tle girl, because she thought we would

in figures."

Gregory, I'm glad Miss Noir agreed to say nothing about her discoveries, for the only harm in them is what people might imagine. I was pretty uneasy, at first, of course I knew that if she felt she ought to tell it, she would. I never knew anybody so conscientious.'

"Fran!" he exclaimed with pleasure. is the practice ended?"

Silence.

Sitting on That Bridge at Midnight

"Why do you say that? Aren't we

the best of friends?" Fran collected herself, and spoke with cool distinctness: "I have a pretty hard fight, Mr. Ashton, and it's necssary to know who's on my side, and who isn't. I may not come out ahead; but I'm not going to lose out from tak-

"Which you will kindly explain?" explains it."

Mrs. Gregory rose, and spoke through her mother's ear-trumpet: 'Shall we go home, now?"

"That Fran," repeated Grace, "Is show-girl! She is eighteen or nineteen years old, and she is a show-girl!" "Wouldn't it be best for you to ask

"Ask her? Her? No. I ask you! "Let me push the chair," said Abbott, stepping to Mrs. Gregory's side. hasn't use for anything but a faithful He read in the troubled face that she had known this secret, also

The secretary gazed at him with a far-away look, hardly conscious that he was beating retreat, so absorbed was she in this revelation. It would be nation of her character?" necessary for some one to go to Springfield to make investigations. Grace had for ever alienated Abbott has ever had a chance to develop; Ashton, but there was always Robert she's too fixed on thinking herself Clinton. He would obey her every what she isn't. Her opinion of what wish; Robert Clinton should go. And she ought to be is so sure, that she when Robert had returned with a full has never discovered what she really history of Hamilton Gregory's school. is. And you can't possibly hold a sedays at Springfield, and those of Gregory's intimate friends, Fran, with the proofs of her conspiracy spread before her, should be driven forth, never again to darken the home of the phil-'Let him go on!" she said with a flash anthropist,

CHAPTER XIII.

Alliance With Abbott.

For the most part, that was a silent Your eyes are smoldering-Oh, Fran, walk to Hamilton Gregory's. Abbott those eyes! What weapons have Ashton pushed the wheel-chair, and it given her?" was only Mrs. Jefferson, ignorant of what had taken place, who commented and looked at him darkly. "The secret on the bright moon, and the relief of of my age, and the secret of my past." rose-scented breezes after the musty auditorium of Walnut Street church.

"They were bent and determined on Fran going to choir practice," the old Fran, "I went right down from the lady told Abbott, "so Lucy and I went choir loft, and straight over to her, along to encourage her, for they say I looked her in the eye, and I asked she has a fine voice, and they want all what you had been telling about me. the good singing they can have at Why, you told her everything, even Uncle Tobe Fuller's funeral. I despise that I was trying to find out whether big doings at funerals, but I expect to you and I would ever-would ever get "And did Fran have a card to repre- go, and as I can't hear the solos, nor married! I might as well say it, it the preacher working up feelings, all came pat enough from her-and you I'll have to do will be to sit and look told! Nobody else knew. And you at the coffin."

"Mother," said Mrs. Gregory, "you are not cheerful tonight." "No," the other responded, "I think you even tried-but no, I'll leave you

it's from sitting so long by the Whited and Miss Grace to discuss such sub-Sepulcher."

Mrs. Gregory spoke into the trumpet, with real distress-"Mother, mother! Abbott won't understand you; he Mrs. Gregory was calm. "Miss Grace, doesn't know you are using a figure cheeks, "I didn't tell her, upon my

"Yes," said the old lady, "number

Abbott effected diversion, "Mrs

There was a pause, then Mrs. Gregry responded, "She will not tell." Abbott had seen them safely into the house, and had reached the gate on his departure, when Fran came running up. In pleased surprise he opened the gate for her, but she stopped in the outside shadow, and he

paused within the yard. She made no response

"Fran, what's the matter?"

Abbott was both perplexed and hurt Remember what we said on the new bridge," he urged; "we're friends while we're together and after we part!"

"Somebody ought to burn that new bridge," said Fran, in a muffled tone: 'it's no good making wishes come true."

ing a foe tor a friend."

"You are Grace Noir's friend-that to say that again; but you shall be lieve me."



But it just proves what I said, about her emptying her friends, about taking their secrets from them even without their knowing she's doing it. I said to her. sharp and quick, 'What have you been saying about me, Miss Noir? She said-T understand from Professor Ashton that you are not a young girl at all, but a masquerader of at least eighteen years.' I answered-Being couldn't be her friend if you were not a masquerader of at least thirty-five, you should have found that out, yourself.' I hardly think she's thirty-five: it wasn't a fair blow, but you have to fight Indians in the brush. Then your friend said, 'Professor Ashton informs me that you are a circus-girl. Don't you think you've strayed too far from that's rather to her credit, isn't it? the tent?" she asked. I said-'Oh, I brought the show with me; Professor Ashton is my advance advertising agent.' Then she said that if I'd leave, Mr. Gregory need never know that I'm an impostor. But I told her no tickets are going to be returned. I said—'This show absolutely takes place, rain or shine.'"

"Fran," said Abbott in distress, "I want to talk this over-come here in cret from her, if you're her friend; she the yard where you're not so conspicuous."

> "Show-girls ought to be conspicuous. No, sir, I stay right here in the glaring moonlight. It doesn't cail for darkness to tell me anything that is on your mind, Professor."

"Fran, you can't hold me responsible ne see your face; are you in earnest? for what Miss Grace guessed. I tell you, she guessed everything. I was trying to defend you-suddenly she saw through it all. I don't know how it was-maybe Mrs. Gregory can explain, as she's a woman. You shall not deem me capable of adding an atom to your difficulties. You shall feel that I'm your friend 'while we're together and after we part.' You must wheeled away Mrs. Jefferson," said believe me when I tell you that I need your smile." His voice trembled with sudden tenderness.

She looked at him searchingly, then her face relaxed to the eve of revolution. "Who have you been trying to get a glimpse of, all the times you parade the street in front of our house?

Abbott declared, "You!" In mute appeal he held out his hand.

dropped your King of Hearts over the fence-you told her that! And when "You're a weak brother, but herewe were standing there at the gate. And she slipped her hand into his. "If she'd been in conversation with me, I wouldn't have let her have any jects. Here we are at the same gate, presentiments. It takes talent to keep from telling what you know, but genius to keep the other fellow from "Fran!" cried Abbott, with burning guessing. What I hate about it is, that Cahokia creek. Practically all of the the very next time you fall into her waterfall of the plateau was formerly hands, you'll be at her mercy. If I carried through the lower area by the told you a scheme I've been devising, Cahokia creek to the Mississippi ske it from you in broad day- river, light. She can always prove she's right, because she has the verse for t-and to deny her is to deny Inspiration. And if she had her way—she thinks I'm a sort of dissipationthere'd be a national prohibition of

Fran." "If there were a national prohibition of Fran, I'd be the first to smuggle you in somehow, little Nonparell. the Cahokia creek would meet the Isn't it something for me to have taken you on trust as I have, from the

very beginning?" His brown eyes were so earnest that Fran stepped into the shadow. "It's more than something, Abbott. Your trust is about all I have. It's just enough water to almost submerge the like me to be wanting more than I have. I'm going to confide in you my scheme. Let's talk it over in whispers." They put their heads together. Tomorrow, Grace Noir is going to the city with Bob Clinton to select mu sic for the choir-he doesn't know any more about music than poor Uncle Tobe Fuller, but you see, he's still alive. It will be the first day she's been off the place since I came. While she's away, I mean to make my grand WALK TO AVOID STARVATION effort."

"At what, Little Wonder?" "At driving her away for good. I'm going to offer myself as secretary, and with her out of sight, I'm hoping to win the day.'

years—is it reasonable he'd give her Malibu mountains, eight children, And would it be honorable for you to work against her in that way? Besides, Fran, she is really necessary to Mr. Gregory's great charity enterprises-

"The more reason for getting rid of

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

QUICK WIT PREVENTS PANIC ing down to the footlights; looked up

into the air, and, quick as a flash,

ter, and the quick-witted comedian was undoubtedly the means of preventing a serious calamity."

St. Kildan Parliament, One feature of St. Kildan life would

have appealed strongly to Doctor Johnson if he had carried out his intentior of spending a winter on the island. "The men of St. Kilda," writes John Sands, "are in the habit of congregating in front of one of the houses al "The low comedian was on the most every morning for the discussion stage in the part of a drunken hus- of business. I called this assembly the band receiving a vigorous lecture parliament, and, with a laugh, the from his wife. 'Madam,' he had just adopted the name. When the subje parliament, and, with a laugh, they erved, 'If you keep on you'll talk is exciting they talk with loud vote the roof off, when there was a roar and all at one time, but when the ques crash, the building swaying like a cr in perfect harmony. Shall we go to tree in a storm. Everybody jumped catch soled-geese, or ling, or mend to their feet, for they saw the roof had been carried away. They were about to turn and make one dash for house. Sometimes disputes are settled



East Side Levee and Sanitary District of Illinois.

Section is a Municipality Chartered by the State and Has Power to Collect Taxes to Keep the Mississippi River Within Bounds.

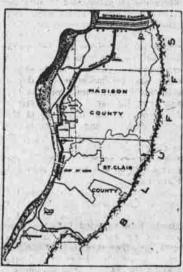
East St. Louis.-The east side levee and sanitary district, in which the city of East St. Louis is situated, is a municipality, chartered by the state of IIlinois and given power to levy and collect taxes for the purpose of providing flood protection and drainage for a 150 square mile area situated on the east side of the Mississippi river, opposite the city of St. Louis.

The area extends about 30 miles along the Mississippi river, and is bounded on the east by a chain of bluffs. Within the area is a large industrial center, and a very prolific agricultural dietrict. The principal city in the area is East St. Louis, which has a population of 75,000. The other cities are Granite City, National City, Madison, Venice, Brooklyn, Nameoki and Cahokia.

In the past this area has had to endure many floods, resulting from an unusual combination of causes. The estimated cost of the work provided for in the present plans of the east side levee and sanitary district is \$6,-500,000. The east side leves and sanitary district as a municipally embrace a large territory, including the cities mentioned, but is in no way directly connected with them. The district is governed by a board of trustees elected every four years, which board appoints a chief engineer, a treasurer, clerk and attorney.

To appreciate the significance of the measures taken by the east side levee and sanitary district toguard against future floods in the area, it is necessary to have a clear understanding of the causes of the frequent floods.

The area is comparatively low, and the Mississippi river formerly spread over a large portion of it Through the area runs a stream called Cahokia creek. Lying northwest of the area is a 200 square mile plateau, which forms a watershed for



In the event of a heavy rainfall the water from the plateau would augment the drainage of the lower area, and the Cahokia creek would overflow its banks in the lower area. High water in the Mississippi river and the Cahokia creek would frequently occur at the same time. The Mississippi river water packing up into the channel of downward rush of the water from the plateau and the result would be a disastrous overflow. The Mississippi river inundating the area from the west and the Cahokia creek overflowing in the central part furnished area. These overflows occurred frequently, and caused great inconvenlence to traffic and devastation of property.

Keeping the Mississippi river out of the area was simply a matter of building a levee high enough, but harnessing the Cahokia creek was a problem presenting a number of difficulties

Eight Children Trudge Forty Miles in Search of Father, Mother

Los Angeles, Cal.-Facing starva "But she's been his secretary for five tion in their isolated home in the ranging in ages from eighteen years to eighteen months, started on a 40 mile walk to Los Angeles in search of food and their father and mother The father, R. W. Baller, a homestead er, came to Los Angeles some days

ago to seek work, they said. After they had walked 15 miles the older children, taking turns in carrying the youngster as well as their pet dog and cat, which they would not leave to starve, they were found by Ray Nimmo, an attorney of Los Angeles. He gave them money with which to ride to this city, where they have arrived.

New York .- A freak ballot cast in the election named the following: for mayor, Fola LaFollette; for alderman, Harry K. Thaw; for sheriff, John A Hennessy; for district attorney, Mrs. Emmeline Pankhurst; for borough president of Manhattan, George Perkins, and for coroners, Charles F. Murphy and Thomas F. Ryan.

Washington .- "When the 'lid' is aced upon a city, one's pleasure is must be expected," said Preston Gib-son, a prominent clubman of New York and Washington. "The recent orfork and washing, which closes repu-der in New York, which closes repu-lable 'tango' palaces, drives the pa-ross to disreputable places," said he

Pain in Back and Rheumatism are the daily torment of thousands. To effectually cure these troubles you must remove the cause. Foley Kidney Pills begin to work for you from the first dose, and erert so direct and beneficial an action in the kidneys and bladder that the pain and torment of the second of the sec

ment of kidney trouble so Trappers Names

It is better to have loved and lost than to pay alimony.

Of course right thinking people are those who think as you do

A woman loves secrets because of the fun she has in letting them es-

Mrs. Winslow's Southing Syrup for Children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflamma-tion, allays pain, cures wind colle, he a bottle, he

Speaking of men, there is a vast

difference between bigness and great-

Owned Up.

"I hear you're writing books on sex hygiene." "Yes," replied the back writer, with "I've struck pay dirt at

last."-Judge. Not Quite. "Pa, tell me one thing about army and navy officers."

"What is it, son?" "Is it when they get tired that they

put on their fatigue uniform?" Beneath His Dignity. Mr. Job Lott-Why isn't the store opened? What are you waiting for? His Most Recent and Junior Employe-For the boy I have engaged to

ake down the shutters.-Puck. Too Much. "What's the trouble here?"

"The bellboys are on a strike." "Want more pay, I suppose." "No. A man came in a little while ago and asked to have Wladislasca Szcbnrczs paged."

Natural Supposition. "Johnny," the teacher asked, "can you tell me anything about Christopher Columbus?"

"He discovered America." "Yes. What else did he do?" "I s'pose he went home and lectured about it."

Appropriate. A snobbish woman was looking for a coat-of-arms, having been told that her family had royal blood in its veins, although her great-grandfather had been a Chicago pork packer.

The coat-of-arms came back to her in due course, and the waggish genealogist had put on it for a motto: "The pen is mightler than the sword.

Vacuum Theology. A colored Baptist was exhorting. 'Now, breddren and sistern, come up to de altar an hab yo' sins washed away.

All came but one man. "Why, Brudder Jones, don' vo' want o' sins washed away?' "I done had my sins washed away." "Yo' has! Where yo' had yo' sins

washed away?" "Ober at de Methodist church." "Ah, Brudder Jones, yo' ain't been washed; yo' jes' been dry cleaned."-

Lippincott's Magazine.

Frost Shapes on Windows. The frost-forms on window panes are crystalline, of the same nature exactly as the snow flake. In snow flakes there is a tendency to regularity of structure, sometimes in the form of radiations about a common center, forming star like crystals. It is probable that each tiny crystal formed into ice from the vapor of the air has magnetic properties with north and south poles, and that as these tiny crystals collect to form the snow flake, the collection follows the law by which a north pole of the unattached crystal is attracted to a south pole of the collected mass, while its south pole is repelled radially from the center. This theory would account for the star-like shape of many snow flakes. The variations in the forms of snow flakes would be accounted for by accidents that determine the shape of the nucleus, that is

FULLY NOURISHED Grape-Nuts a Perfectly Balanced Food.

the mauner in which the first few

crystals come together.

No chemist's analysis of Grape-Nuts can begin to show the real value of the food-the practical value as shown by personal experience

It is a food that is perfectly balinced, supplies the needed elements for both brain and body in all stages of life from the infant, through the strenuous times of active middle life. and is a comfort and support in old

"For two years I have used Grap Nuts with milk and a little cream, for breakfast. I am comfortably hungry for my dinner at noon.

"I use little meat, plenty of vege-tables and fruit, in season, for the noon meal, and if tired at tea time, take Grape-Nuts alone and feel per-

fectly nourished. "Nerve and brain power and memory are much improved since using Grape-Nuts. I am over sixty and weigh 155 lbs. My son and husband seeing how I had improved are now using

Grape-Nuts. My son, who is a traveling man ats nothing for breakfast but Grape-Nuts and a glass of milk. An aunt, ever 70, seems fully nourished on Grape-Nuts and cream." "There's a

Name given by Postum Co., Battle reek, Mich. Read "The Road to Vellville," in pkgs.

## STRIKE WON IN 20 MINUTES of one shilling." He counted slowly aromatic and as a flavoring for cakes

Union is Formed and Disbanded With In Short Time After Cause

A story comes from Sydney of a union that was formed, strike declared ad won, the union dissolved, all inside of 20 minutes. The strike was of theater-goers

was against the management of a barn-storming troupe The management asked two shillings than one shilling, and after a

asty consultation outside the theater d a theater-goers' union. kets were stationed and within inutes 278 persons-practically all who were there-had agreed not to pay the two shillings.

The manager appeared at the door-ay and refused to make the required duction. "I'll give you till I count 20," said dent of the union, "and after

to nine, when the manager capitulated. The strike was declared at an end, the union dissolved and the strikers

Alone, Telling People's Fortunes."

take her in more readily, if we be

"Does Mr. Gregory know that?"

told him? What ought I to do?"

"I haven't told him; I don't know

"You haven't told him!" Grace was

eechless. "You knew it, and haven't

"You ought to keep your promise,"

"Sitting on that bridge at midgnight,

Professor Ashton

alone, telling people's fortunes by

Mrs. Gregory!" Grace exclaimed, with

one of those flashes of inspiration pe-

culiar to her sex, "that Fran is a show

lieved her a mere child."

whether Fran has or not.

Abbott retorted hotly.

cards.

girl!"

Reserving a Seat. "Why don't you let the people in?" suggested Mr. Justice Joyce in trying to solve the Paladium queue tangle. Mt. Gambier, in South Australia, and This would be putting the theatrical clock back. In the seventeenth cen tury doors were opened long before the curtain rose. Pepys' for instance, ission to the show, but the patronizes the pit: "To the playhouse tive audience refused to pay at a little past 12 to get a good place in the pit . . , and then, getting a poor man to keep my place, I out and spent an hour at Martin's, my bookseller's, and so, back again, when found the house quits full. But had my place."—London Chronicle.

Queer Uses for the Croque. The crocus is nowadays held to astify, its existence by its beauty, but in bygone centuries it was cultivated with an eye to profit-its saffron our price wall be sixpence inctead being in high demand both as

and pies. A distinction of crocus blossoms, also, was held to be good for strengthening the lungs and heart, trooped into the hall.—New York Trib- and as a preventive of plague. Evidence of the flower's commercial value survives in the name of the chief center of its cultivation. Saffron Walden, but saffron nowadays is appreciated only by the sparrows.

who wreck the crocuses to obtain it. "Lorna Doone's" Popularity. Richard Blackmore's romance, "Lor-

na Doone," was by no means a success on its first publication. The pub lie gave it but grudging approval, and, like many another good novel, it might have hovered on the verge of oblivion but for the opportune marriage of the Marquis of Lorne. Then, for the first time, did the initial word of the book's title, "Lorna," catch the eye of the public, who, imagining that it must have reference to the queen's new son-in-law, rushed to get a copy. ing Devonshire story ample compensation to its purchasers.

Natural Aptitude to Grasp a Situatio

Turned to Good Account

Fran Set Her Back Against the Fence

and Looked at Him Darkly.

honor I didn't. I had to admit drop-

ping the card, to keep her from think-

ing you out here at midnight with a

and guessed-that other. I didn't tell

her anything about your age. I didn't

Fran's concentrated tones grew mild

about the show all this time. She

would die Lefore she'd tell on me.'

"But Mrs. Gregory has known

"I never told, Fran. I'm not going

mention the carnival company.'

stranger. She saw us in the shadow

on Stage. Natural, aptitude to grasp a situation has been turned to account more than once on the stage, and, in one case, if the veracity of a favorite comedian goes for anything, it saved a panic and possible loss of life.

'We were playing one-night stands," said he, "in Kansas during the terrible period of cyclones, and found ourselves in a large, dilapidated building, called, by courtesy, a theater.

the exits, when the comedian, com- by drawing lets."

turned to the lady, and said: "There what did I tell you?" "The audience howled with laugh-